

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 SSM-03 HA-05
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R 300650Z JAN 78
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9773
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 272

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS:XF CH UR

SUBJ: PEOPLE'S DAILY SUPPORTS SADAT ON MIDDLE EAST TALKS

REF: PEKING 220

1 IN A COMMENTARY JANUARY 28, THE AUTHORITATIVE
PEOPLE'S DAILY HAS COME OUT IN SUPPORT OF THE EGYPTIAN
POSITION ON MIDDLE EASTTALKS AND HAS BLAMED ISRAEL
FOR THEIR SUSPENSION. THE COMMENTARY NOTES APPROVINGLY
THAT "EGYPT UPHELD THE PRINCIPLE OF AN OVERALL SOLUTION
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TO THE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION" IN THE TALKS, THUS IN EFFECT
TAKING ISSUE WITH ARAB HARDLINERS WHO CHARGE SADAT WITH A
SELLOUT.

2. EVEN MORE TO THE POINT, THE COMMENTARY BLASTS THE
SOVIET UNION FOR "SLANDERING EGYPTIAN LEADERS" AND
"SOWING DISSENSION BY DISTORTING THE TRUTH" ON THE

TALKS. ACCORDING TO PEOPLE'S DAILY, "THE SOVIET UNION HAS SPARED NO EFFORT TO UNDERMINE ARAB KNITY AND CREATE DIVISION AMONG THE ARAB COUNTRIES." FURTHER-MORE, THE SOVIET UNION, BY PLACING SOME OF THEBLAME FOR THE SUSPENSION OF TALKS ON EGYPT, "IS TRYING TO CREATE CONFUSION SO AS TO MEDDLE IN THE AFFAIRS AND INTENSIFY ITS CONTENTION FOR HEGEMONY IN THE REGION". THE COMMENTARY ENDS BY CALLING ONCE AGAIN FOR ARAB UNITY AND RESISTENCE TO SUPERPOWER INTERFERENCE.

3. THIS IS THE PRC'S CLEAREST PUBLIC STAND TO DATE ON SADAT'S INITIATIVE. PEKING'S DENUNCIATION OF MOSCOW'S ANTI-SADAT STANCE SEEMS CLEARLY DIRRECTED AT THE REJECTIONIST STATES AND AT SYRIA FOR THEIR HOSTILE REACTION TO THE PEACE TALKS. THEIR POLICY, THE PRC IS SAYING, WILL WEAKEN ARAB UNITY AND BENEFIT ONLY THE SOVIET UNION.
WOODCOCK

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Message Attributes

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